

Appl. No. : **10/543,196**
Filed : **June 19, 2006**

REMARKS

In the Office Action, Claims 1-7 were allowed and Claims 8-16 were rejected over prior art. In this Amendment, Claims 8-16 have been canceled. No claims have been added or amended. Claims 1-7 remain pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 1-7.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 8-16 were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,203,416 issued to Mizuno et al. or U.S. Patent No. 6,012,977 issued to Yoshikawa et al. Applicant does not necessarily agree with this rejection and respectfully traverses the rejection and the Examiner's assertions regarding what the prior art shows or teaches. Although Claims 8-16 have been canceled, no acquiescence or estoppel is or should be implied thereby. Rather, the claims were cancelled only to expedite prosecution of the present application, and without prejudice to presentation or assertion, in the future, of claims on the subject matter affected thereby.

No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, Applicant is not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that the Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

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CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection set forth in the Office Action is moot. Accordingly, issuance of a Notice of Allowance is most earnestly solicited.

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the rejections in the Office Action and to place the application in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney, Andrew Douglas at (949) 721-7623 to resolve such issues promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: October 10, 2007

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